

Tennessee's Coordinated School Health Initiative

MEDIA SOUNDBITES

Based on the past five year's success of the ten Coordinated School Health pilots sites, the CSH initiative has been expanded to provide all Tennessee students with the opportunity to develop life skills that promote their health as well as increase their academic achievements.

Improved student behavior, increased attendance and lower school dropout rates are among the many benefits resulting from the ten CSH pilot sites.

CSH initiatives provide school administrators and teachers with the support they need to educate students to their fullest potential. We know that a healthy student is a student capable of taking the best advantage of academic opportunities.

The comprehensive CSH approach fosters student health which is essential for academic and lifelong success.

The CSH approach utilizes community partnerships to achieve system and community change so that students are fully supported to achieve wellness as well as academic success.

With approximately 43 percent of all Tennessee children being at risk for overweight or obesity, a new school emphasis on improving student health status through implementation of the CSH approach, is essential to stem the development of chronic diseases such as diabetes, strokes and heart disease.

CSH is a part of Governor Bredesen's Project Diabetes initiative through the CSH focus on increasing physical activity and health eating behaviors.